

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY/WOW COUNTIES

JULY 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Unemployment Rates up in June

Milwaukee County's unemployment rate was 7.7 percent in June, an increase of 0.9 of a percentage point from May's unemployment rate. Monthly figures show over 9,550 more employed since May, with a corresponding increase of 5,550 more unemployed causing the rate to increase as it did. June's rate is higher than it was a year ago by 0.1 of a percent point., which is the lowest, annual June increase since June 1999, which showed an annual rate decrease.

Washington County's unemployment rate stood at 5.6 percent June. This is an increase, both monthly and annually, by 0.7 and 0.8 of a percent point, respectively. This is Washington County's highest June rate since 1992 when it registered a clip of 5.8 percent.

Ozaukee County's June unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in June, and as usual, had the lowest rate of the Milwaukee metro area counties. Like most counties in Wisconsin, the unemployment rate increased over the month. Ozaukee County is also showing an annual increase in unemployment rate, up slightly by 0.2 of a percentage point.

Waukesha County's unemployment rate increased 0.6 of a percentage to 4.8 percent from May to June. It remains unchanged from the rate in June 2002.

The June unemployment rate for the **Milwaukee Metropolitan Statistical Area** was 6.6 percent (not seasonally adjusted). The rate is higher over the month by 0.8 of a percentage point and is 0.2 higher, annually. June is one of the more dramatic months of the year in terms of labor force activity and it typically indicates a good number of people joining the labor force for seasonal, summertime work. One's first inclination may be to think that this large volume of new labor force participants would lower the unemployment rate, but many of these new entrants are initially unemployed, become employed, and then will figure into the expected, lower unemployment rate of July. This great churning of June's labor force is due to the entrance of students and other seasonal entrants looking for work. Many of these entrants will find

jobs in establishments related to tourism such as retail trade and food and accommodations. Employment with temporary personnel supply agencies normally increases at this time of year as well.

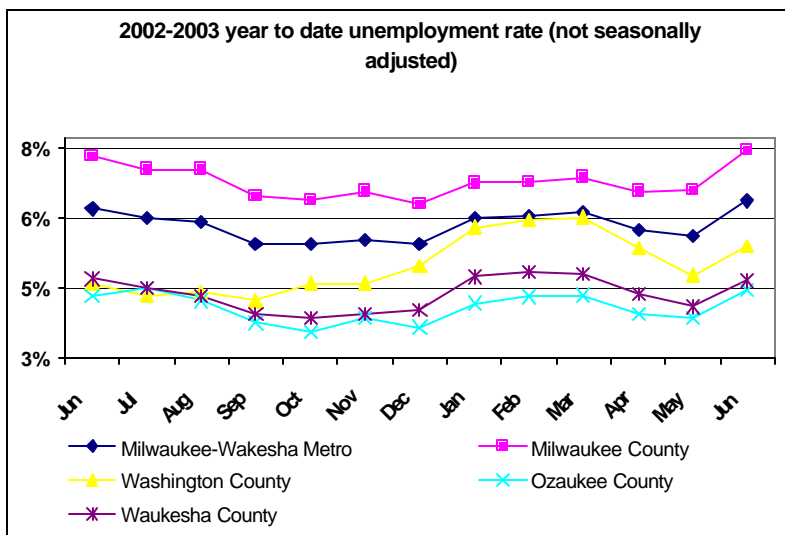
Despite the expected seasonality of June, this is the Milwaukee area's highest unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) for the month of June in quite some time. June of 2002 also showed a higher than average unemployment rate that was 0.2 percentage point lower than present. The labor force is not showing high spikes in its unemployment rate from an annual perspective, as it has in the last couple of years, but continues to be high nonetheless. Hopefully the lack of acceleration in the unemployment reached is a sign that it has reached its peak.

Industry Employment

The **Milwaukee Metropolitan Statistical Area** shows a net increase of 7,000 jobs over the month. This is a fairly typical level increase in the number of jobs from May to June in this area. Industry growth over the month was fairly balanced across the major sectors with trade employment leading the way with 1,900 more jobs. Professionals and business

services showed a month of growth as well posting 1,700 more jobs. Most of this sector's growth was most likely tied to an increased demand for outsourced or temporary employees as is usually the case in the warmer months.

Annually, the industry picture continues to reflect the softer economy with a decrease of 8,600 jobs. Both goods and services producing sectors show deficits compared to last June. Manufacturing; and professional and business services showed the largest annual deficits. Financial activities employment shows the largest annual employment increase with 3,000 more employed or about a five percent increase.



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June 2003	Wisconsin	Milwaukee-Waukesha MSA	Milwaukee County/WDA	Washington County	Ozaukee County	Waukesha County	W-O-W WDA
Civilian Labor Force*	3,164,047	841,446	499,307	71,352	49,896	220,890	342,138
Persons Employed	2,982,426	786,079	460,683	67,389	47,622	210,384	325,395
Persons Unemployed	181,621	55,367	38,624	3,963	2,274	10,506	16,743
Unemployment Rate	5.7%	6.6%	7.7%	5.6%	4.6%	4.8%	4.9%
Total jobs of all non-farm industries** (Thousands)	2,828.9	841.5	534.5	47.9	37.9	221.0	306.9
Goods Producing Jobs	648.7	173.3	83.3	16.4	11.8	61.8	90.0
Service Producing Jobs	2,180.2	668.2	451.2	31.5	26.1	159.2	214.5
Construction, Mining and Natural Resources	129.4	34.2	13.4	3.0	1.6	16.2	20.5
All Manufacturing	519.3	139.1	69.9	13.4	10.2	45.6	69.4
Total Trade	440.2	122.7	67.3	7.4	5.4	42.6	54.5
Wholesale Trade	118.8	40.8	20.6	2.1	1.4	16.7	19.9
Retail Trade	321.4	81.9	46.7	5.3	4.0	26.0	34.7
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	106.9	29.9	22.3	1.6	0.4	5.6	7.6
Financial Activities	158.7	60.8	42.1	2.1	2.1	14.6	18.3
Education and Health Services	361.2	128.0	94.0	5.3	4.4	24.3	34.1
Leisure & Hospitality	256.4	65.8	42.2	4.6	3.3	15.8	23.3
Information, Professional and Business Services, Other Services	438.5	164.5	114.6	5.4	6.0	38.4	49.2
Information	50.5	19.4	13.3	0.5	0.3	5.3	6.1
Professional and Business Services	248.1	102.5	73.9	2.3	3.8	22.5	28.1
Other Services	139.9	42.6	27.3	2.7	1.9	10.7	15.0
All Government	418.3	96.5	68.8	5.2	4.4	18.1	27.3
Change from May 2003							
Civilian Labor Force*	87,520	24,360	15,100	1,970	1,360	5,930	9,260
Persons Employed	62,050	16,290	9,550	1,400	990	4,360	6,740
Persons Unemployed	25,480	8,070	5,550	580	370	1,570	2,520
Unemployment Rate	0.7%	0.8%	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
Total jobs of all non-farm industries** (Thousands)	30.8	7.0	4.5	0.3	0.3	1.9	2.5
Goods Producing Jobs	9.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Service Producing Jobs	21.6	6.9	4.5	0.3	0.3	1.8	2.4
Construction, Mining and Natural Resources	6.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3
All Manufacturing	3.0	-0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Total Trade	7.8	1.9	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.9
Wholesale Trade	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3
Retail Trade	5.6	1.3	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.6
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	2.4	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.4
Education and Health Services	-2.0	-0.7	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Leisure & Hospitality	10.6	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3
Information, Professional and Business Services, Other Services	7.6	2.3	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7
Information	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	6.2	1.7	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.5
Other Services	1.3	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3
All Government	-5.6	1.4	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4
Change from June 2002							
Civilian Labor Force*	79,670	6,290	3,620	1,030	380	1,250	2,670
Persons Employed	68,000	4,620	2,710	400	280	1,240	1,910
Persons Unemployed	11,680	1,670	920	640	100	20	760
Unemployment Rate	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
Total jobs of all non-farm industries** (Thousands)	5.5	-8.6	-4.2	-0.8	-0.6	-3.2	-4.5
Goods Producing Jobs	-22.6	-6.6	-3.2	-0.6	-0.5	-2.4	-3.4
Service Producing Jobs	28.2	-2.0	-1.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.8	-1.1
Construction, Mining and Natural Resources	-8.2	-1.3	-0.5	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	-0.8
All Manufacturing	-14.5	-5.4	-2.7	-0.5	-0.4	-1.8	-2.7
Total Trade	6.5	-2.8	-1.6	-0.2	-0.1	-1.0	-1.3
Wholesale Trade	3.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Retail Trade	3.2	-2.5	-1.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.8	-1.1
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1.9	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	4.0	3.0	2.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.9
Education and Health Services	2.2	1.5	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4
Leisure & Hospitality	-0.5	-1.8	-1.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.7
Information, Professional and Business Services, Other Services	9.2	-2.3	-1.7	0.0	-0.1	-0.5	-0.6
Information	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	3.9	-3.1	-2.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.7	-0.9
Other Services	5.8	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3
All Government	4.9	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1

* Labor force figures are **not** seasonally adjusted and are commonly revised. Figures from "place of residence" survey from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Local Area Unemployment Statistics program. **Figures based upon "place of employment" survey from the BLS, Non-Farm Wage and Salary estimates.

Month and year ago change figures are rounded and may not sum to total

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